

## EXPERIENCE THE WONDER

They come as they have for thousands of years to this stretch of the Platte River—more than 600,000 Sandhill Cranes in all—to rest, feed and congregate in astonishing numbers before pushing on to their breeding grounds in the north. Now, as never before, you can experience the wonder of North America's great Sandhill Crane migration on rare Crane Trust lands in the heart of Nebraska.

These Crane Trust lands are also home to a large herd of genetically-pure American bison which were reintroduced in 2014 to become a natural part of grazing, burning, and resting of the land. American bison once coexisted with the cranes before settlement and were instrumental in shaping this critical habitat along the Platte River.

Come immerse yourself in this captivating and rare ecosystem, which has been preserved by the Crane Trust to mirror the unique and extraordinary habitat used for millennia by the endangered Whooping Cranes and the Sandhill Cranes.



“  
The annual Sandhill Crane migration is one of the world's greatest natural spectacles.

CHARU SURI |  
WALL STREET  
JOURNAL



© Russ Wiley

## EXTRAORDINARY LEGACY

The Crane Trust was created in 1978 as part of a court-approved settlement over the construction of Grayrocks Dam on a tributary of the Platte River more than 400 miles upriver in Wyoming. The State of Nebraska and the National Wildlife Federation objected to the project, claiming it would jeopardize irrigation and wildlife downstream in Nebraska.



© Michael Forsberg

The Crane Trust's mission is to protect and maintain the physical, hydrological and biological integrity of the Big Bend area of the Platte River so that it continues to function as a life support system for Whooping Cranes, Sandhill Cranes and other migratory bird species.

Since 1978, the Crane Trust has protected over 20,000 acres of land and currently maintains and protects 10,000 acres.

### visit us just outside GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

**CRANE TRUST NATURE  
& VISITOR CENTER**  
9325 S Alda Rd  
Wood River, NE 68883

**CRANE TRUST WILD ROSE  
RANCH (PRIVATE HQ)**  
6611 W Whooping Crane Dr.  
Wood River, NE 68883

308-382-1820 | [INFO@CRANETRUST.ORG](mailto:INFO@CRANETRUST.ORG)

[CRANETRUST.ORG](http://CRANETRUST.ORG)



*immerse your soul in a*  
**SANDHILL CRANE MIGRATION**  
**ALL-INCLUSIVE**  
**VIP EXPERIENCE OR SAFARI**



“ *It was phenomenal, breathtaking and amazing.  
It was so much more than I thought it was going to be.* ”

- CASSANDRA PIETROK, DDS | CRANE TRUST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL MEMBER



[CRANETRUST.ORG](http://CRANETRUST.ORG)



©Patrick Chiu



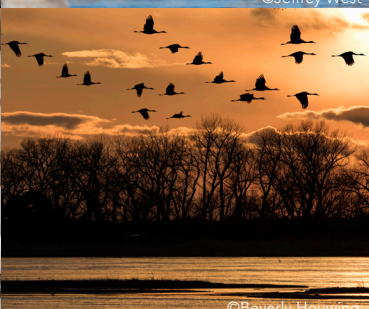
©Jeffrey West



©Jeffrey West



©Emery Styron



©Beverly Houwing

## VIP EXPERIENCE & SAFARI

*The one-night VIP Experience* includes two fresh meals (with vegetarian option) and beverages (beer and wine included) on the Crane Trust's private lands away from the crowds. There are two guided crane viewing experiences, one at sunset and one at sunrise.

*The two-night Crane Trust Safari* includes five meals (with vegetarian option) and beverages (beer and wine included). There are four guided crane viewing opportunities plus a special activity in the afternoon such as a guided hike or vehicle tour of historic Mormon Island.

During sunset and sunrise viewings from the private Pietrok Family VIP Blind, guests watch as thousands upon thousands of cranes gather and disperse in front



of them on the largest Sandhill Crane roost in the world. Guests spend time in the heated blind with experts who provide valuable insights into the science and the mystery of the Sandhill Crane migration and Platte River ecosystem. This blind is specially designed to provide spectacular vistas and provide Friends of the Trust a comfortable and warm viewing experience.

## COTTAGES & SUITES

*The Hastings College, Lauritzen, and Union Bank & Trust Cottages* were designed to provide a unique opportunity for guests wanting an immersion experience to



©Emery Styron

witness the migration. The three cottages each have four bedrooms with either a queen bed or two twin beds, with private bathroom. There is a kitchenette with dining table and television in the common area and a covered patio overlooking the vast historic prairie where our genetically-pure American bison roam.

*The Bay Family Suites* were designed for discerning guests looking to upgrade their experience. These beautiful, private, and luxurious accommodations come



with two adjoining suites, each with a comfortable king size bed, television and views of the adjacent pond.

There are dual sinks in the large bathroom with a spacious tiled shower. The kitchen has a dining area and the living room has two leather recliners and a television. DirectTV and free wifi are included.

## RESERVATIONS

The VIP Experience and Safari packages are priced per room. Space is limited and demand is high. Call or e-mail to reserve your room or be added to the waitlist today.

VIP EXPERIENCE: \$500/cottage room | \$1000/suite  
 VIP SAFARI: \$1500/cottage room | \$2500/suite

308-382-1820 | INFO@CRANETRUST.ORG

“This is what one of the last great migrations looks like.”

ELAINA ZACHOS | NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



©Emery Styron